

## OTHER DIVISION FOCUS AREAS

Area	Lead
Supervisor training and mentoring	Midge Delavan
<u>Child Abuse Prevention</u>	Liz Kuhlman
Kinship program practice - better defined	Judy Hull
<u>Re-entry (repeat removals) into foster care (CFSR data element)</u>	Linda Wininger
Safety Model	Jonathan Houser
Purposeful Visiting	Tanya Albornoz and Melissa Herrera
In-Home Services	Angela Robbins

**DCFS Prevention Plan**  
**Based on Planning Meeting of Administrative Team**  
**January 30, 2007**

Needs/issues	Discover what is already being done; communicate to all
Desired Outcomes	Better communication regarding CAN prevention sponsored by DCFS
Strategies	Presentation to RD/Administrative Team Meeting
<i>Action Steps:</i>	Liz Kuhlman, Child Abuse Prevention Specialist, presented to the RD/Administrative Team meeting on May 8; PowerPoint presentation attached.

Data measures: Minutes of May 8 meeting.

Needs/issues	Look at other states
Desired Outcomes	Extensive review has been done of CAN prevention activities in other states.
Strategies	In 2004, a Child Abuse Prevention Task Force reviewed the research with principal investigators giving presentations at six meetings between June and December of that year: Deborah Daro, PhD (Healthy Families: many states); Kathy Spatz Widom (CAN, Juvenile Delinquency, and Adult Criminality--nationwide); Vincent Felitti, MD (Long Term Health Effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences—California); Neil Piland, PhD (Cost of Child Maltreatment—nationwide); Robert Hahn, PhD (Effectiveness of Early Childhood Home Visitation—nationwide).
	Since 2004, the Child Abuse Interim Action Committee and the Child Abuse and Neglect Council (both citizen advisory groups devoted to child abuse prevention) have led prevention efforts. In addition, the Utah Association of Family Support Centers, the only statewide association devoted exclusively to child abuse prevention, has provided leadership in implementing the requirements of the federal Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) grant. Liz Kuhlman provides staff support to these groups.
	2006-2007: 6 member PREVENT Team selected from Utah to participate in national seminar sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and the University of North Carolina Injury Prevention Institute. Liz Kuhlman represented DCFS. Review of state-of-the-art child abuse prevention efforts nationwide; PREVENT plan for state. Final Report for Utah available upon request.
	Review of implementation of most effective, evidence-based programs in all states to determine how they are funded and implemented completed by Liz Kuhlman, 2007.
	Becky Ruffner presented in January 12, 2007, to more than 70 DCFS and community partners on implementation of Healthy Families in Arizona.
<i>Action Steps:</i>	Liz Kuhlman, Child Abuse Prevention Specialist, presented to the RD/Administrative Team meeting on May 8; PowerPoint presentation attached; DOH requesting funding for Nurse Family Partnership (NFP);

Data measures:

Needs/issues	Focus on primary level
Desired Outcomes	More comprehensive primary CAN prevention throughout Utah
Strategies	2005 PSSF-CBCAP and 2007 Children's Trust DCFS RFPs specified preference for primary and secondary prevention and required justification for use of funds for tertiary prevention.
<i>Action Steps:</i>	More of the programs funded by these two funding sources focus on primary prevention.

Data measures: Federal Fiscal Year 2006 report regarding levels of prevention in funded programs.

Needs/issues	Present information to Regional Director team
Desired Outcomes	Regional Directors have better information about CAN prevention efforts in Utah
Strategies	May 8 presentation to RD/Administration Team meeting
<i>Action Steps:</i>	Annual follow-up?

Data measures: Minutes of May 8 meeting.

Needs/issues	Keep children in their homes
Desired Outcomes	Fewer children in out-of-home placement
Strategies	Implement effective, evidence-based primary and secondary prevention models in Utah
<i>Action Steps:</i>	DOH request for funding for Nurse Family Partnership model; Governor's Child and Family Cabinet Council looking at cross-disciplinary, cross-agency strategies for preventing all poor child outcomes, including CAN and out-of-home placement.

Data measures: Trend of out of home placements over time.

Needs/issues	Children in grades K – 4 “lost”
Desired Outcomes	Fewer children in grades K – 4 are maltreated? Are in out-of-home placement?
Strategies	Implement effective, evidence-based primary and secondary prevention models in Utah
<i>Action Steps:</i>	Continue to fund prevention efforts now in place, especially after school mentoring and tutoring programs.

Data measures: Trend for child victims in this age group over time.

Needs/issues	Impact of meth and other substance abuse on children
Desired Outcomes	Fewer children where meth or other substance abuse is a factor in supported case in out-of-home placement; those who are in out-of-home placement spend fewer days there; more substance-abusing parents get into and complete substance abuse treatment.
Strategies	Meth/substance abuse interim groups for parents awaiting placement in treatment.
<i>Action Steps:</i>	Proposal submitted to ACF/OCAN June 28 for funding for this initiative.

Data measure: Trend in out-of-home placements of children in cases where substance abuse is a factor over time, especially if we get the grant.

Needs/issues	Limitations on existing resources.
Desired Outcomes	More funding for DCFS-funded resources such as Family Support Centers and Children's Trust grants; more effective collaboration with partner agencies; up front alternative responses; domestic violence pilot statewide.
Strategies	Governor's Child and Family Cabinet Council.
<i>Action Steps:</i>	Communicate these needs effectively to the Cabinet Council so that they make the desired outcomes priorities for funding next legislative session.

Data measures: Fewer children maltreated.

## **Goal:Re-entry into foster care (repeat removal)**

### **Category: Permanency**

Needs/Issues:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Discharge to stable placements</li><li>○ Improved OA placement process</li><li>○ Better understanding of drug relapse</li><li>○ Better understanding of how to support kinship placements</li><li>○ Better decision making process before removals</li><li>○ Understanding of how removals effect IV-E eligibility</li></ul>
Desired Outcomes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Children have stability and permanency</li><li>○ Reduction of trauma</li><li>○ Reduction of re-entry</li><li>○ Better understanding by the courts</li><li>○ Workers apply the principals that promote permanency</li></ul>
Strategies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Re-entry reporting – supervisors report on re-entries and why they occurred, what could have been done to prevent them.</li><li>○ Clean up data from DJJS.</li><li>○ Defined process between DJJS and DCFS on O&amp;A placements not requiring change in custody</li></ul>
<i>Action Steps:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Regions will draft and implement region plans to reduce re-entries into foster care</li><li>○ Data unit will work with ACF and DJJS to clean up the data, specifically the problem with children in DJJS custody moving in and out of IV-E eligible placements during one custody episode.</li><li>○ Patti VanWagoneer and Dan Maldonado will compose a memorandum of understanding with a process to retain children in DCFS custody while accessing O&amp;A services.</li><li>○ Workers, AGG's and Judges will be trained on the new process.</li></ul>

Data Measures: Re-entry into care data